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MISCELLANEOUS POLITICAL INFORMATION ON BULGARIA

TWO ANTI-COMMUNISTS LIQUIDATED -- Vienna, Interreport-Ost, No 232, 14 Mar 53

At the beginning of 1953, Nikola Brontsov, former mayor of Sofia and defense attorney of Nikola Petkov at the latter's trial, was liquidated in a Bulgarian concentration camp. At the same time, it became known in Sofia that Tsvyatko Boboshevski no longer lives. Boboshevski, together with Todor Pavlov, the present president of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and Vasilin Ganev, headed the Bulgarian government between 5 September 1944 and 8 September 1946.

STUDENTS ACCUSED OF HIGH TREASON -- Vienna, Interreport-Ost, No 268, 29 Jul 53

It is reported from Sofia that 24 students at the "Khristo Botev" Technical Institute in Sofia face trial on charges of forming illegal groups within the school and distributing illegal pamphlets. The students are 16 - 18 years old.

SLIVEN PRISON HOLDS 1,300 WOMEN -- Paris, La Bulgarie Libre et Indpendente, 1 Jul 52

The Sliven women's prison, located on a barren hill northeast of the town, is composed of two sections. The first section, which is on the second floor, has 13 cells holding 500 or 600 prisoners condemned to severe punishment. The second section is composed of women sentenced to lighter punishment.

About 1,300 women from all classes of society, from 19 to 70 years of age, are imprisoned here. All have been accused of economic sabotage, of conspiring against the regime, or of listening to foreign broadcasts.

The women walk in the corridors for one-half hour each day, and are allowed to walk in the yard once a week. Many of the prisoners are chained. Children up to the age of 4 share their mothers' fate, as do those born in prison. Lack of hygiene encourages illness, but the prisoners have no medical aid or medicine.

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Each cell is 2 by 3 meters in size, and has a small barred window. There are also large rooms 10 meters long, into which 100 prisoners are crowded. About 25 meters underground are five windowless dungeons flooded with water. Those who are condemned spend from 10 to 15 days there and are subjected to bestial torture.

BULGARIANS PHOTOGRAPHED EN MASSE BY THE COMMUNISTS -- Rome, Bulgaria Libera e Indipendente, 25 Feb 53

In order to exchange old identification cards for new ones (passports), the Communists sent photographers' crews to all parts of Bulgaria to photograph the Bulgarian people. As a result, they will have complete documentation, with photographs, on all persons. To facilitate the work of the State Security and the photographers' crews, the Communists forced the Bulgarian people to line up in the market places for hours. -- Anton Bulgarenski

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